

534, 616

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
27 May 2004 (27.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/045183 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 29/06**,
12/46

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2003/012832

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE,
GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR,
KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK,
MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT,
RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR,
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date:
13 November 2003 (13.11.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
02292825.3 13 November 2002 (13.11.2002) EP

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE,
SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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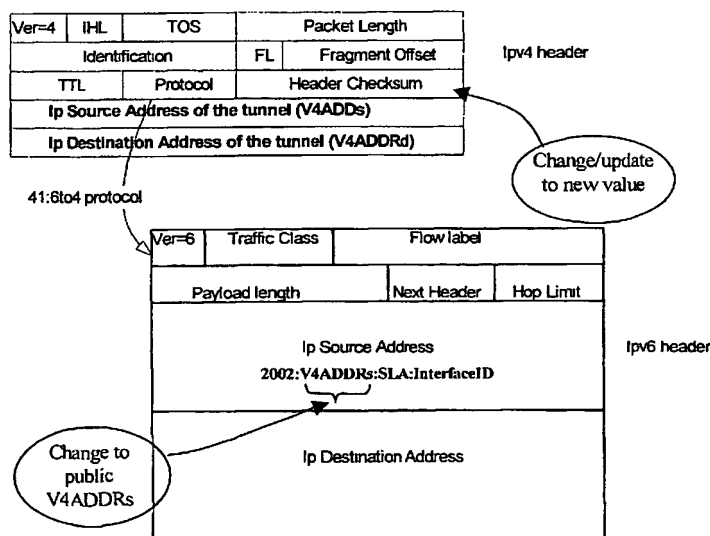
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Published:

— with international search report

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING A 6TO4 TUNNELING PROTOCOL ACROSS A NETWORK AD-
DRESS TRANSLATION MECHANISM



(57) Abstract: A method for supporting a 6to4 tunneling protocol across a network address translation mechanism. The method comprises the steps of receiving an outbound IPv6 packet encapsulated into an IPv4 packet, translating the private IPv4 source address in the IPv4 header of the outbound packet into a public IPv4 source address, transmitting the translated packet over the IPv4 network; and is characterized in that it further comprises the step of storing an association of the private IPv4 address and the Interface ID value of the 6to4 source address for opposite address translation of inbound packets. A corresponding device is also claimed.

WO 2004/045183 A1